

Senate Research Committee
Minutes of a Meeting
Thursday, November 23, 2000 at 10:00 a.m. in room S-205

Present: J. Beaudoin (secretary), C. Bédard, E. Besso, J. Capobianco, N. Howe
C. Lam, B. Layne, T. Mak, O. Moselhi, E. Saccá

Regrets: C. Coady, A. English, F. Haghighat, R. Lachapelle, J. McGuire

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as submitted.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of Thursday, September 14, 2000.

The approval of the Minutes of Thursday, September 14 were deferred to the next meeting.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

Human Research Ethics Policy (SRC 0001 1123 D1)

It was expected that Dr. F. Bird would present the latest revisions of the Human Research Ethics Policy. However, Dr. Bird's presentation will take place at SRC's next meeting in January 2001.

4. Chair's report

NSERC quotas: the Chair reminded the Committee that NSERC Fellowships are awarded on a quota basis, and that this year, Concordia did not reach its quota, meaning that next year, the quota will again be reduced.

CFI, SSHRC, CIHR, and FCAR visits: The agencies have been on tours across Canada promoting their programs and discussing their mandates with University officials and Faculty members. The CFI has indicated that it might be providing funds for personnel operating costs associated with the infrastructure it awards in the future. SSHRC president Marc Renaud visited Concordia to meet with the Academic Deans. He was particularly interested in meeting with representatives from the Fine Arts and from Commerce and Administration. The president of CIHR, Dr. Bernstein, stressed during his visit here that the mandate of the CIHR is larger than the mandate of the former MRC, and that social and economic aspects of health can now be funded by the CIHR. FCAR president Mme S. Dillard explained the new "regroupement stratégique" during her visit. There is also some rumour at FCAR that they might be reorganizing into a system similar to the federal tri-council system.

VIP: the mandate of the VIP, funded in part by Valorisation Recherche Quebec (VRQ), is to commercialize research or its member institutions, namely Concordia and the UdeQ network.

CFI New Opportunity: there is a New opportunity CFI proposal being submitted in December on behalf of a researcher from the Department of Computer Science.

5. Report from the Director, Office of Research Services

The Director's Report is attached; however there were two additions to the report:

The Director stressed that Concordia's lack of an Intellectual Property Policy hinders contract negotiation by slowing the process. Without a clearly defined policy, decisions must be made on an ad-hoc basis, which is time consuming and less productive than having a policy in place.

VRQ has requested a joint submission in the area of Media Arts from Concordia and UQAM. They have submitted a Letter of Intent, which is expected to lead to an application to one of VRQ's programs.

6. Question period

There were no questions.

7. New Business

Revisions to URF guidelines (SRC 0001 1123 D2)

There was discussion around the distinction between the Junior and the Senior University Research Fellow Awards. For the second consecutive year, both nominees for the awards are senior researchers. The Faculties do not always submit candidates in both categories, and therefore the URF Committee can elect to nominate two recipients in the same category (this being done only in the case where there are two highly deserving candidates in a particular category). It was recommended that the distinction between the categories be more clearly highlighted in the URF guidelines, and that the time-line for the competition be adjusted somewhat to take some of the pressure off the Faculties in the summer.

Nomination of the 2001 University Research Fellows

Motion: that the nomination of Professor Irene Whittome and Dr. Suong Hoa be submitted to Senate for approval as the 2001 Concordia University Research Fellows. (Dr. C. Lam, Dr. N. Howe)

Vote: carried unanimously

Draft of CRC summary

A draft of the Summary was presented to the Committee for comments. Overall, the Committee agreed that submitting an integrated document was a better approach than submitting a text divided into four faculty sections. The draft will be distributed to the Deans and the Provost for their comments, after which time it will be sent to CRC for their December 1 deadline.

8. Information

9. Other Business

There was no other business.

10. Next meeting: Thursday, January 18, 2001 at 10:00 a.m.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.